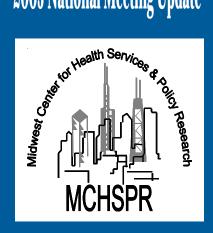
The NEWSBRIEF

Midwest Center for Health Services & Policy Research VA HSR&D Center of Excellence

2005 National Meeting Update



MCHSPR is Growing - Opening offices at Jesse Brown VAMC and UIC

The Midwest Center for Health Services and Policy Research is pleased to announce the official opening of our offices at the Jesse Brown VAMC (formerly West Side VA). This expansion of our center is a result of the strong interest in health services research from our colleagues in the School of Medicine, University of Illinois, Chicago (UIC) and the desire of MCHSPR to partner with colleages at UIC. Drs. Tom Layden, Head of Department of Medicine and Jay Goldstein, Vice Head of Department of Medicine at UIC, and Dr. Subash Kajecka. Acting Chief of Staff at Jesse Brown VAMC have worked closely with Dr. Kevin Weiss at MCHSPR to bring this to fruition. This formal partnering with UIC also strengthens our ties with the Schools of Public Health, Pharmacy, and Nursing within the university.

Dr. Marian Fitzgibbon (see insert) has accepted the position of Associate Director of MCHSPR at Jesse Brown VAMC. Dr. Fitzgibbon's role will be to facilitate and strengthen the health services research programs at UIC and Jesse Brown VAMC. She will serve as a mentor to junior investigators interested in doing health services research within VA and at the university. Dr. Fitzgibbon also is a Professor of Psychology, Department of Medicine, UIC.

Joining Dr. Fitzgibbon is Dr. Melinda Stolley (see back page). Drs. Stolley and Fitzgibbon have worked together for several years in the areas of health prevention and promotion using behavior change strategies to address issues such as obesity in minority women with breast cancer, and reducing cardiovascular risks for minority populations. Their work complements and expands upon the work that MCHSPR has done to address issues of complex chronic care and the work of SCI QUERI in implementation research.

Drs. Fitzgibbon and Stolley will be joining two MCHSPR investigators already at Jesse Brown/UIC. They are Dr. Ahsan Arozullah, an HSR&D advanced career development awardee, and Dr. Saul Wiener, a Robert Wood Johnson Faculty Scholar.

Until the renovation of the Jesse Brown facility is complete, the MCHSPR offices will be located in the Health Research and Policy Centers, UIC, 1747 W. Roosevelt Road, Chicago, IL. We would like to welcome Drs. Fitzgibbon and Stolley to MCHSPR and look forward to a long and productive relationship.

Marian Fitzgibbon, PhD, Associate Director, MCHSPR at Jesse Brown VAMC

Dr. Marian Fitzgibbon is a professor in the University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Medicine's School of Public Health, section chief of UIC's Section of Health Promotion Research and the associate director for Health Services Research at the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center. Since receiving her doctorate from Long Island University in 1986, Dr. Fitzgibbon has conducted research in numerous areas, including eating disorders and obesity prevention. Her primary research interest is health risk reduction in people of color. Dr. Fitzgibbon is currently the principal investigator on a project assessing the efficacy of a weight-loss intervention specifi-

cally designed for African-American women and a one-year pilot study examining the feasibility of training Chicago Public School teachers to implement a healthy eating and exercise curriculum with preschoolers. She has also worked on projects exploring colorectal screening in low-literacy populations and breast cancer risk reduction in Black women. In addition, she is a research advisor and mentor to graduate students in the clinical psychology PhD program at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine, where she was a faculty member from 1988 until 2004.

Selected Publications

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Contributions or Suggestions should be addressed to: Madeline Thornton c/o HSR&D (151H) P.O. Box 5000 Hines VA Hospital Hines, IL 60141-5151

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EDITORIAL ASSISTANT Carol Durczak

DESIGN/LAYOUT Madeline Thornton

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR Kevin B. Weiss, M.D.

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Frances M. Weaver, PhD

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